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Issue 13


DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY
Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona

GROUP HOME BULLETIN

DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

PROGRAM MONITORING

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Equal Opportunity Employer/Program

Under Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Department prohibits discrimination in admissions, programs, services, activities, or employment based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, and disability.

The Department must make a reasonable accommodation to allow a person with a disability to take part in a program service or activity. For example, this means if necessary, the Department must provide sign language interpreters for people who are deaf, a wheelchair accessible location, or enlarged print materials. It also means that the Department will take any other reasonable action that allows you to take part in and understand a program or activity, including making reasonable changes to an activity. If you believe that you will not be able to understand or take part in a program of activity because of your disability, please let us know of your disability needs in advance if at all possible.

To request this document in alternative format or for further information about this policy, contact the Division of Developmental Disabilities ADA Coordinator at (602) 542-6825; TTY/TTD Services: 7-1-1.

ADOT OFFERS MONSOON SAFETY DRIVING TIPS

Don't Risk It!

The headlines are all too familiar. Dust storm causes fatal chain reaction crash. Flood waters claim driver crossing swollen wash. Heavy rain sends boulders onto highway. These are among the often tragic or frightening events that occur when monsoon storms strike in Arizona each summer.

According to the National Weather Service, monsoon season officially begins each year on June 15 and lasts until September 30.

The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) urges drivers to be prepared for summer storms and potentially hazardous driving conditions by following these MONSOON SAFETY DRIVING TIPS:



When in doubt, wait it out! If you see a dust storm ahead, it's best to exit and wait for the dust to move through the area.



When faced with low or zero visibility conditions, pull your vehicle off the road as far to the right as possible. Turn off your lights, set the parking brake, and take your foot off the brake pedal. These steps reduce the chance that other drivers mistake your vehicle as the one to follow.



Don't risk crossing a flooded wash, even if it doesn't look deep. Water is a powerful force that should not be underestimated.



Do not drive around 'ROAD CLOSED' signs. You risk your life and face being cited under the state's stupid motorist law.



If traffic lights are out, treat an intersection just like a four-way stop.



Expect the unexpected. Have extra supplies, including an emergency kit and drinking water, in case you experience an extended highway closure.



Storm runoff can loosen boulders and rocks on slopes above highways. Stay alert in rock fall prone areas.

Visit the ADOT Travel Information site at **az511**,
call 5-1-1 within Arizona, or **1.888.411.ROAD** outside the state
for current information regarding road conditions statewide.
In the event of any consumer emergencies, CALL 9-1-1 IMMEDIATELY!

DUST STORM INFORMATION & SAFETY RULES

Keeping Yourself and Others Safe!

The Maricopa County Department of Emergency Management offers the following public awareness information for dust storm safety in Arizona.

WHAT IS A DUST STORM?

A dust storm is created whenever strong turbulent winds pick up loose dirt and sand particles in such quantity as to seriously reduce visibility.

WHEN AND WHERE DUST STORMS OCCUR

Dust storms can be expected during the afternoons of hot summer days when "thunderhead" clouds are seen. They generally result from thunderstorm activity which originates in the southeastern part of the state or in Mexico and become hazardous to traffic as they move northwest. They have the appearance of solid walls of dust and can be seen approaching from some distance.

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DUST STORM INFORMATION & SAFETY RULES

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DUST STORM HIGHWAY SAFETY MEASURES

Areas along highways in which dust storms are frequent and may cause reduced visibility are posted with lighted "CAUTION" or "WARNING" signs.

Severe weather watches and warnings, to include possible dust storms, are broadcast over radio and television.

If a dust storm is sighted, turn on your car radio and follow these instructions:

- ➔ Reduce speed and turn on driving lights.
- ➔ If you are on a highway, leave the freeway at an exit ramp, if possible.
- ➔ If dust becomes so intense that you cannot see 300 feet (the length of a football field) PULL OFF THE ROADWAY — even as far as the right-of-way fence. Do not stop on the traveled portion of the roadway.
- ➔ After stopping, TURN OFF DRIVING LIGHTS.
- ➔ Wait until visibility is at least 300 feet before re-entering the roadway. Be prepared to pull off the road and stop if visibility drops once again.
- ➔ Heavy rain may follow the dust storm. Watch for flooded highway dips even though it may not have rained where you have been.

ANOTHER NOTE: High winds cause dry "tumbleweeds" to break away from their roots and roll across the countryside. They are light masses of small, brittle stems and are not hazardous to automobiles. DO NOT take evasive action to avoid tumbleweeds. By doing so, you endanger yourself and other traffic.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

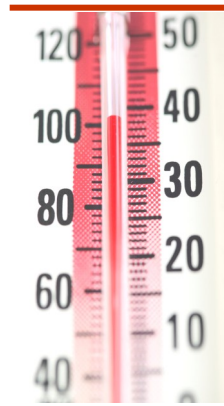
<http://www.azdot.gov/CCPartnerships/News/NRel2951.asp>

http://www.maricopa.gov/emerg_mgt/pdf/duststrm.pdf

NEVER LEAVE A PERSON OR PET UNATTENDED IN A VEHICLE

—Sandra J. Verheijde, R.N., CPQH
QUALITY MANAGEMENT ADMINISTRATOR

Adults with disabilities, elderly, children, and pets are all susceptible to heat-related illness, heat exhaustion, and heat stroke. If the temperature outside is 90°F, it could reach 130°F inside a vehicle! The temperature inside a vehicle on a hot day can rise as much as 20 degrees in the first 10 minutes after being parked. Within minutes, the temperature can climb to 150°F. In a very short time a person can become dehydrated, and their internal temperature can climb to 107°F degrees. Death can occur shortly after.



At the University of Arizona, college faculty and staff (*as an interesting way to raise awareness about the dangers of the heat*) put potatoes, rice, brownies, and a cake in a car in the early morning. By 4:00pm that same day, they checked the food and the temperature of the car. The car was hot enough to cook the brownies and the rice. A thermometer was immediately inserted into the rice after it was pulled from the car, and the temperature read 170 degrees!

Remember: It is ILLEGAL to leave a person or a pet in a vehicle unattended. Felony criminal charges can be filed in most jurisdictions. After checking carefully to ensure no one is left inside, a parked van should be locked to prevent entry into the vehicle while unattended. **NEVER** leave anyone unattended in a van, even "to run in & out quickly". Not only is it a wrong thing to do; it's illegal!

VEHICLE SAFETY TIPS

Enjoy a Safe Trip!

No two driving trips are the same. The conditions in which you drive changes every time you get into your vehicle. Follow your agency's routine and checklist/policy to ensure everyone's safety. Some examples of safety checks could be the following:

INSIDE Vehicle Safety Tips

- ☑ Ensure everyone is buckled up.
- ☑ If anyone is in a wheelchair, ensure their chair is properly locked, secured with tie downs/safety locks.
- ☑ Ensure proper placement of consumers, i.e., do not place someone that will distract the driver in the seat behind him/her.
- ☑ Items secured in the vehicle that might become loose in transport (lunch boxes).
- ☑ Ensure the vehicle has a First Aid kit and any other required emergency/safety equipment.
- ☑ Have a safe trip!

OUTSIDE Vehicle Safety Tips

- ☑ Ensure everyone has entered the van safely and secured.
- ☑ Prior to moving the vehicle, adjust inside and outside mirrors.
- ☑ When backing up, be aware of what and who is behind you and to the sides of the vehicle.
- ☑ Always keep the keys with you and not left in the vehicle.
- ☑ Have a safe trip!



WE'VE MOVED

On June 30th the Central Office Quality Management Unit moved into the Sixth Floor of the Phoenix Financial Services Center Building (NE corner of Central and Osborn):

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Suite 601
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